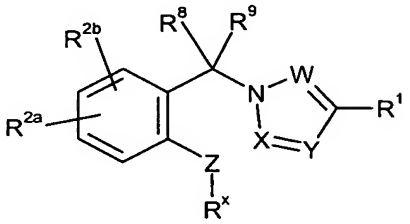
Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

W represents N or CR^{10} wherein R^{10} represents hydrogen, halogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

X represents N or CR^{11} wherein R^{11} represents hydrogen, halogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

Y represents N or CR^{12} wherein R^{12} represents hydrogen, halogen, CH_3 or CF_3;

Z represents O, S, SO or SO_2;

R^1 represents CO_2R^4, $CONR^5R^6$, CH_2CO_2H, optionally substituted SO_2alkyl, $SO_2NR^5R^6$, $NR^5CONR^5R^6$, *2H*-tetrazol-5-yl-methyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

R^{2a} and R^{2b} independently represents hydrogen, halo, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkoxy, CN, SO_2alkyl, SR^5, NO_2, optionally substituted aryl, $CONR^5R^6$ or optionally substituted heteroaryl;

R^x represents optionally substituted alkyl wherein 1 or 2 of the non-terminal carbon atoms are optionally substituted by a group independently selected from NR^4, O and SO_n, wherein n is 0, 1 or 2: or R^x represents optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-heterocyclyl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-bicyclic heterocyclyl or optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-aryl;

R^4 represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;
R^5 represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;
R^6 represents hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted SO_2aryl, optionally substituted SO_2alkyl, optionally substituted SO_2heteroaryl, CN, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^baryl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^bheteroaryl or COR^7;
R^7 represents hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl or optionally substituted aryl;
R^8 and R^9 are independently selected from hydrogen, fluorine or alkyl, or R^8 and R^9 together with the carbon to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl ring, optionally containing up to one heteroatom selected from O, S, NH or N-alkyl;
wherein Q^a and Q^b are each independently selected from hydrogen, CH_3 and fluorine;
or a derivative thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the five membered ring comprising W, X and Y is pyrrole or pyrazole.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein R^1 is CO_2H.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof together with a pharmaceutical carrier and/or excipient.

6. – 7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE_2 at EP_1

receptors which comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

10. – 11. (Canceled).

12. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the subject is a human.

13. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the subject is a human.

14. (New) A method of mediating EP_1 receptors, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

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